GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3389
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
INDUS WATER TREATY
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has followed the Indus Water Treaty in letter and spirit whereas the Pakistan has failed to do so on a number of occasions;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has alleged that India has restarted the work on the hydroelectric Bhaglihar Plant on the river;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government propose to review the said treaty;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether recently water discharge into the Chenab river was abruptly reduced from 5,700 cusecs to 3,900 cusecs;

(g) if so, whether Pakistan took up the matter with India and raised objections on the project's design; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Indus Waters Treaty 1960 between India and Pakistan is being implemented since 1st April, 1960. During the course of its implementation, certain differences have arisen between India and Pakistan over some of the projects.

(c) to (e) Pakistan has objected to the construction of river works connected with the Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant by India. No proposal to review the Treaty is, however, under consideration.

(f) The discharge in a river is variable in time and space. Observed discharge at the last Gauge & Discharge site (Akhnoor) on the river Chenab varied from 3,849 cusec to 5,686 cusec during the month of January and from 3,400 cusec to 11,900 cusec during the month of February, 2002.

(g) & (h) The Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters, in the month of January 2002, complained of reduced discharge in the Chenab River at its Marala head works in comparison to last year's discharge. The Irrigation and Flood Department, Jammu has, however, reported that the natural discharge in the Chenab River has been low this year.